

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20 (Cancelled)

21. (New) Pollution control device comprising a pollution control element arranged in a casing with a mounting mat disposed between said casing and said pollution control element, said casing having an exterior exposed to the atmosphere, said mounting mat comprising at least one intumescent layer disposed between at least one first non-intumescent layer and at least one second non-intumescent layer, with said at least one first non-intumescent layer being disposed between said at least one intumescent layer and said pollution control element, and said at least one second non-intumescent layer being disposed between said at least one intumescent layer and said casing,

wherein said at least one intumescent layer comprises an intumescent material and has a surface density of at least about 500 g/m², said at least one first non-intumescent layer comprises inorganic fibers, has a surface density of at least about 450 g/m² and insulates said at least one intumescent layer from excessive heat from said pollution control element, and said at least one second non-intumescent layer comprises inorganic fibers, has a surface density of at least about 450 g/m² and insulates said at least one intumescent layer from relatively lower temperatures of said casing.

22. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer comprises at least one of a layer of glass fibers, a layer of ceramic fibers obtainable from a sol-gel process, and a layer of annealed ceramic fibers.

23. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein the surface density of at least one of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer is at least about 600 g/m².

24. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein the surface density of at least one of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer is at least about 800 g/m².

25. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein the surface density of at least one of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer is at least about 1000 g/m².

26. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein the surface density of at least one of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer is at least about 1400 g/m².

27. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein the surface density of said intumescent layer is at least about 1000 g/m².

28. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein the surface density of said intumescent layer is at least about 1500 g/m².

29. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein the surface density of said intumescent layer is at least about 2000 g/m².

30. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein the uncompressed thickness of said intumescent layer is not more than about 1/3 of the combined uncompressed thicknesses of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer.

31. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 30 wherein the uncompressed thickness of each of said intumescent layer, said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer is in the range of from about 0.1 mm to about 10 mm.

32. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 30 wherein the uncompressed thickness of said mounting mat is in the range of from about 3.0 mm to about 30 mm.

33. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 31 wherein the uncompressed thickness of said mounting mat is in the range of from about 3.0 mm to about 30 mm.

34 (New) Pollution control device according to claim 30 wherein said at least one first non-intumescent layer has a combined compressed thickness of at least about 1mm, and said at least one second non-intumescent layer has a combined compressed thickness of at least about 1 mm.

35. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein the uncompressed thickness of said intumescent layer is the same or thinner than the combined uncompressed thickness of said first non-intumescent layer and said second non-intumescent layer.

36. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein said mounting mat has a bulk density of 0.15 to 0.50 g/cm³.

37. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein said intumescent layer further comprises inorganic fibers.

38. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said non-intumescent layers comprises inorganic fibers that are essentially shot free.

39. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein said at least one first non-intumescent layer, said at least one second non-intumescent layer, or said mounting mat comprises a needle-punched structure.

40. (New) Pollution control device according to claim 1 wherein the pollution control element comprises a pollution control monolith having a wall thickness of not more than 0.127 mm and from 62 to 186 cells per square centimeter (400 to 1200 cells per square inch).